

**DUBLIN  
GRAND OPERA  
SOCIETY**



**CONSTITUTION,  
1958**

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Headquarters :  
11 LEINSTER STREET, DUBLIN

# Dublin Grand Opera Society

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## RULES

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### Title Objects

1. The name of the Society shall be "The Dublin Grand Opera Society".

2. The objects of the Society shall be:—

- (a) to produce or assist in the production of Opera, Choral Works and Ballet;
- (b) to bring together all those interested in, and to establish a better understanding and appreciation of, Opera;
- (c) to develop the scope of the Society's work and to promote its social and cultural influence in Ireland;
- (d) to establish and maintain training centres and classes, with facilities for lectures, in order to achieve the highest possible artistic standard;

- (e) to do all such other things as may be deemed necessary or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects or any of them.

### **Membership**

3. Membership of the Society shall comprise Patron Members, Performing Members and Production Members.

### **President and Vice-Presidents**

4. There shall be a President of the Society, to be elected annually, and also Vice-Presidents nominated for life by the Management Committee from time to time.

The Vice-Presidents shall be persons who, by their patronage or benevolence, have deserved well of the Society.

### **Management Committee**

5. The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Management Committee, one of whom may be a Production Member, consisting of a

Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Assistant Honorary Secretary, two Joint Honorary Treasurers (one of whom shall be a Patron Member and the other a Performing Member), and six Ordinary Members, of whom three shall be Patron Members and three shall be Performing Members. An Honorary Legal Adviser, without voting powers, shall also be elected.

All obligations undertaken by the Management Committee on behalf of the Society shall be obligations of the Society.

The Management Committee shall be elected by ballot of the members present at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations shall indicate the consent of the person nominated, and shall reach the Hon. Secretary not less than twenty-eight (28) days before the date of the meeting.

Retiring members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election, and casual vacancies shall be filled by co-option, by the Management Committee.

Meetings of the Committee shall be

held normally once a month and the Hon. Secretary shall normally give not less than one day's notice thereof. The quorum for such meetings shall be eight. Voting shall be by a show of hands, the Chairman having a casting vote in case of an equality of votes.

### **Trustees**

6. The property of the Society shall be vested in Trustees in trust for the members of the Society for the time being. Their number shall be not more than five nor less than three. They shall be appointed by the Management Committee and they shall hold office until death or resignation, or until removed by resolution of the members at a General Meeting.

### **Election of Members**

7. Election to Membership of the Society shall be by the Management Committee. Candidates shall be proposed and seconded by existing members.

Candidates for Performing Membership shall be required to pass a qualify-

ing test and may then be permitted to attend rehearsals. Their membership shall be probationary and subject to confirmation by the Management Committee within one month of their having passed the qualifying test.

### **Annual General Meeting**

8. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held not later than the 15th March in each year. The business shall include the presentation by the Management Committee of an annual report and statement of accounts, the election of the President and the Management Committee, the appointment of Auditors, and any other business of which not less than twenty-eight (28) days' notice has been given to the Hon. Secretary. Thirty members shall constitute a quorum.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting, together with the Agenda and the certified Statement of Accounts, shall be posted to each member not less than seven days before the date of the meeting.

The election of the Management

Committee shall be by ballot. All other questions at the Annual General Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands, or a ballot at the discretion of the Chairman. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have and exercise a casting vote.

### **Special General Meeting**

9. A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon. Secretary at the direction of the Management Committee or on the written requisition of not less than thirty members. Fourteen days' notice in writing shall be given to each member and the motion or motions to be discussed shall be stated thereon. Thirty members shall constitute a quorum and the voting procedure shall be the same as for the Annual General Meeting. At any such meeting, no business shall be transacted save that of which due notice has been given.

### **Financial Year**

10. The financial year of the Society shall be the calendar year.



## **Subscriptions and Privileges**

11. The annual subscription for Patron Members shall be four guineas, payable on the 1st January. Those elected on or after the 1st July, in any year, shall be liable for only half the subscription for that year.

The annual subscription for Performing and Production Members shall be one guinea, payable in two equal half-yearly instalments on or before the 1st March and 1st September.

Patron Members shall be entitled to two Dress Circle seats at each Season. Performing and Production Members shall be entitled to two Parterre seats at each Season. All members shall be entitled to priority booking and all other amenities and facilities of the Society.

Members whose subscriptions are more than one month in arrear shall, at the discretion of the Management Committee, cease to be members.

## **Accounts**

12. The Joint Hon. Treasurers shall—receive the subscriptions of members, as well as all other monies that



may from time to time be paid into the Society by any person on account of the Society;

be responsible for these monies, which shall be kept in a Bank to the credit of the Society;

pay all accounts by cheque, which shall bear their signatures and that of the Chairman;

provide a Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for each season, when required to do so by the Management Committee.

### **Patron Members' Committee**

13. There shall be constituted a Patron Members' Committee, consisting of not less than 12 persons elected annually by the Patron Members present at the Annual General Meeting. The functions of the Committee shall be to co-operate as closely as possible with the Management Committee in promoting the objects of the Society and to discharge any tasks that may be entrusted to it from time to time by the Management Committee with that end in view. The Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Hon.

Secretary, and may summon additional general meetings of Patron Members as requisite.

### **Musical Director**

14. The Management Committee shall appoint an Honorary Musical Director of the Society, who may be ex-officio a member of all sub-committees appointed to deal with musical matters.

### **Sub-Committees**

15. The Management Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees to deal with the various branches of the work of the Society. Each sub-committee shall consist of a Chairman and at least two other members, in addition to whom the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Management Committee shall be ex-officio members.

### **Termination of Membership**

16. If any circumstance connected with the conduct of a member is, in

the opinion of the Management Committee, likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of, or good order of, the Society, the Committee may, after due warning, call upon the member in question to resign and, in default of resignation, may terminate his or her membership.

### **Amendment of Rules**

17. Amendments to these Rules may be made only at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the Society. Not less than twenty-eight days' notice of such amendments shall be received by the Hon. Secretary, and no such amendment shall be carried except by a two-thirds' majority of those present and voting.

### **Interpretation**

18. The Management Committee shall have power to decide any question that may arise as to the interpretation of these Rules and/or any matter affecting the Society not herein provided for.

## **Date of Operation**

19. These Rules shall come into force and be binding on all members as from the Annual General Meeting of 1958.



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